

## WYCOMBE WANDERERS 1 BARKING 0

BARKING'S hopes of a trip north to Goole or Blyth disappeared three minutes from the end of this entertaining FA Trophy match on Tuesday.

While it was never going to be a high-scoring game, it kept the large crowd fascinated until the final whistle.

The result was hard on the Blues, who had played well enough to deserve a replay, and whose efforts could not have been faulted.

Barking dominated the first half. They took up good positions but unfortunately Chris Ballard and Noel Ashford failed to give enough service to Peter Burton and Mick Dingwall, and the visitors' best efforts were long-range shots from Nick Ironton.

Barking's defence was magnificent, with Dave Waite, who passed a fitness test half an hour before kick-off, dominant in the air.

The best chance of the first half fell to Wycombe, when, in the 32nd minute, Gary Anderson's back pass went straight to the feet of Howard Kennedy. Only brave decisive action by Nick Markwick pre-

vented Barking from falling behind.

Apart from this flutter, Barking were otherwise never really troubled before the interval.

The second half started well for Wycombe, with Steve Long using the slope to advantage. Nick Markwick had to call upon all his skills to save from Kennedy in the 52nd minute after some good wing play by Long.

Barking slowly pulled themselves back into the game and were unlucky not to go ahead in the 64th minute when Burton's powerful header from Nick Ironton's corner was blocked by Bobby Davies on the line.

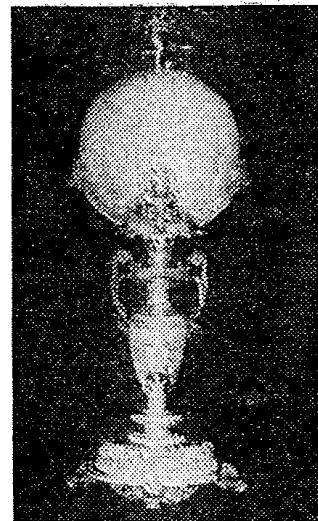
Wycombe were still dangerous on the break and a minute later Mick Holifield's shot produced one of the best saves seen at Wycombe this season. Markwick had a faultless game.

Barking held out under increasing pressure and with less than five minutes to go seemed to be heading for a draw—with which they would have been content!

Unfortunately a lapse in concentration by the Barking defence gave Terry Scott the chance to shoot from close range. His mis-hit attempt fooled Markwick for once—and it was enough to put Wycombe into the second round.

**Wycombe:** Maskell; Birds-eye, Davies, Mead, Phillips, Priestley, Evans, Holifield, Long, Kennedy, Scott. Sub: Judd (for Evans 77m).

**Barking:** Markwick; Barrett, Makin, Arber, Waite, Ironton, Ballard, Anderson, Burton, Dingwall, N. Ashford. Sub: Brothers (not used).



## TIME-WASTING

A LATE decision to postpone the FA Trophy match at Wycombe gave Barking a fruitless journey on Saturday.

They were told to travel, but when they got to Wycombe they found the sloping Loakes Park pitch under a few inches of snow, with the lines cleared.

They were still hopeful of playing, but, after a further inspection, the referee called the match off and Blues played darts instead!

### WYCOMBE 1 BARKING 0 Att. 892

For the second time in a week we bowed out of a cup competition. At Wycombe after our most successful run in the Trophy an 86th minute goal was enough to give the home side the unenviable task of travelling to Blyth Spartans for the second round. The Blues had defended very well on a night that the Barling attack had failed to score mainly due to a well organised Wycombe defence coupled with good fortune and some very strong refereeing decisions.

With the time ticking away it seemed that Barking had done enough to bring Wycombe back to Mayesbrook for a replay, that was until the home team scored after a goal mouth melee. Pete Burton had the best chance for the Blues, his bullet header beat the Wycombe 'keeper but was headed off the line by the full back. Ah well there's always next year!